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# Advancement of women

## Report of the Third Committee

*Rapporteur*: Mr. Juraj **Priputen** (Slovakia)

## I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Advancement of women" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee held a substantive debate on the item jointly with item 113 at its 13th to 17th meetings, from 17 to 19 and on 22 October 2001, and took action on the item at its 25th, 29th, 32nd, 47th, 52nd, 53rd and 55th meetings, on 30 October and on 1, 7, 21, 29 and 30 November. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/56/SR.13-17, 25, 29, 32, 47, 52, 53 and 55).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 2001;[1]

(b) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions;[2]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/56/328);

[1] A/56/3; for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/56/3/Rev.1).

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/56/38).

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(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/56/279);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/56/174);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (A/56/268);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (A/56/316);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers (A/56/329);

(i) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system (A/56/472);

(j) Letter dated 19 July 2001 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the Secretary-General (A/56/306);

(k) Letter dated 24 July 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the communiqué and the Genoa Plan for Africa, adopted at the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of Eight held at Genoa, Italy, from 20 to 22 July 2001 (A/56/222-S/2001/736);

(l) Letter dated 27 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/56/9).

4. At the 13th meeting, on 17 October, a statement was made by the Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (see A/C.3/56/SR.13).

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Officer-in-Charge of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Deputy Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (see A/C.3/56/SR.13).

6. Also at the 13th meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Officer-in-Charge of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Deputy Director of UNIFEM responded to questions raised by the representatives of Belgium, India, Benin, Cuba and Algeria (see A/C.3/56/SR.13).

7. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee responded to a question raised by the representative of India (see A/C.3/56/SR.13).

# II. Consideration of proposals

## A. Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.20 and Rev.1

8. At the 25th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of

the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/C.3/56/L.20), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 55/219 of 23 December 2000, in which it decided to provide the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women with financial assistance on a non-recurrent basis, enabling the Institute to continue its activities throughout 2001,

"*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/40 of 26 July 2001 and its recommendation that the General Assembly consider the transfer of any balance remaining from the $800,000 advance for 2001 to the Institute for its operations in 2002,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the critical situation affecting the Institute;

"2. *Commends* the Institute for the successive implementation of phases I and II of the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System and the initiation of phase III;

"3. *Expresses its concern* that, after the departure of the Director in July 2001 and notwithstanding the severe predicament of the Institute, a new Director has not yet been appointed;

"4. *Takes into consideration* that:

"(a) The balance remaining from the $800,000 advanced for 2001 is estimated at the $400,000 level;

"(b) The amount resulting from the transfer of the $400,000 together with the contributions envisaged for 2002 would not be sufficient to cover the core operations of the Institute throughout 2002;

"5. *Decides*:

"(a) To establish a Task Force with one representative from each of the five regions of the United Nations, two representatives from the host country and two representatives of the Secretary-General. The mandate of the Task Force will be to recommend to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002, measures to be implemented to bring about both the long-term sustainability and the future development of the Institute;

"(b) To provide the Institute with the financial support required for continuity of its core operations during the biennium 2002-2003, in order to allow the implementation of the measures decided upon by the Economic and Social Council;

"6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to:

"(a) Appoint the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women as soon as possible in order to provide the Institute with the required leadership, in particular throughout the period of restructuring;

"(b) Ensure that the Secretariat provides the Task Force with the support it requires for the undertaking of their work;

"(c) Continue to encourage Member States to support the Institute by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Institute;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002, on the implementation of the present resolution."

9. At its 55th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "The critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/C.3/56/L.20/Rev.1), submitted on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

10. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran further orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) Operative paragraph 4, which read:

"4. *Decides*:

"(a) To establish a working group composed of two governmental representatives from each of the five regional groups of the United Nations and one representative of the host country, the mandate of the working group being to recommend to the General Assembly at its fifth-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002, measures to bring about the long-term sustainability and the future development of the Institute, and in the meantime to provide the Institute with the necessary financial support for the continuity of its core operations in a productive and cost-effective manner;

"(b) To request the Joint Inspection Unit to conduct a review of the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and an urgent evaluation of the activities of the Institute",

was replaced by the following:

"4. *Decides*:

"(a) To establish a working group composed of two governmental representatives from each of the five regional groups of the United Nations and one representative of the host country the mandate of the working group being to make recommendations to the General Assembly before the end of the fifty-sixth session, for its consideration by the end of 2002, on the future operation of the Institute;

"(b) To examine ways, within the framework of General Assembly resolution 55/219 of 23 December 2000 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/40 of 28 July 2001, in which the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women could be provided with resources to enable it to continue its operation until the General Assembly has considered the recommendations of the working group";

(b) Operative paragraph 5 (b), which read "To ensure that the Secretariat provides the working group with the support it requires for the undertaking of its work", was deleted.

11. Also at the 55th meeting, the representative of the Programme Planning and Budget Division of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts made a statement in connection with the oral revisions made by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran (see A/C.3/56/SR.55).

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.20/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 36, draft resolution I).

## B. Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.21 and Rev.1

13. At the 25th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Suriname, on behalf of Barbados, Belize, the Congo, the Dominican Republic, Mongolia and Suriname, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The integration of older women into development" (A/C.3/56/L.21), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the purposes and principles of the United Nations, enshrined in its Charter, and the obligations enshrined in various human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

"*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/23 of 4 May 1982 on elderly women and the World Assembly on Ageing, 1986/26 of 23 May 1986 on elderly women and 1989/38 of 24 May 1989 on elderly women, General Assembly resolution 44/76 of 8 December 1989 on elderly women and Commission on the Status of Women resolution 36/4 of 20 March 1992 on the integration of elderly women into development,

"*Aware* that women constitute the majority of the older population and that, in the years to come, the number of older women will increase more rapidly in developing countries than in developed countries so that by the year 2020, 72 per cent of the worldwide population over sixty years of age will be living in developing countries and more than half of that population will be women,

"*Recognizing* the important contribution that older women have made, paid and unpaid, throughout their lives, in particular during their older years, to human rights, and to social, economic and cultural activities,

"*Equally aware* of the fact that older women, in all regions of the world, represent an important human resource, and that their contribution to society and development in the economic, cultural, political and social fields often remains unseen or unrecognized,

"*Considering* that older women have suffered from past discrimination and lack of opportunity and that in many countries the plight of older women is becoming more serious,

"*Recognizing* that the risk of impoverishment, particularly in old age, is greater for women because social security schemes are based on a history of continuous remunerated employment and older women have often spent their lives in unremunerated caregiving or in informal labour activity, and that in this regard women have also faced lifelong discrimination in respect of entering and functioning in the formal labour market,

"*Concerned* that lower educational opportunities available to women hinder their full participation in the public and political life of their country throughout the age continuum,

"*Concerned also* that post-menopausal conditions and diseases have been neglected in research, academic studies, public policy and service provision, and that the quality of life of older women is therefore in danger,

"*Recognizing* that the interrelationship of ageing and disability among women needs special attention, since lifelong neglect of women's health, social condition, poor nutrition and hard physical labour leaves them at and after menopause especially vulnerable to the risks of disabilities,

"*Aware* that statistics are an essential ingredient of planning and policy evaluation and that few statistics are available on the situation of older women,

"*Calling attention* to the urgent need to develop and improve the publication of statistics by gender and age, and to identify and evaluate the different forms of activities of older women, which are not normally recognized as having an economic value, in particular in the informal sector,

"*Believing* that it is critical to mainstream the needs and concerns of older women into the planning process at all levels,

"*Emphasizing* the consequent need to adopt an approach for the advancement of women that takes into account all stages of life, so as to identify measures that respond to women's needs and human rights,

"1. *Notes with appreciation* the valuable contributions that non-governmental organizations have made in calling attention to the specific needs of older women and encourages them to continue to cooperate with the international community on behalf of these women;

"2. *Invites* international development agencies and organizations, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations Development Programme, to take account of the potential of older women as a human resource for development, to include older women in their development strategies and programmes, and to encourage Governments to ensure the inclusion of women, regardless of age, in development projects covered by national and multilateral financial institutions;

"3. *Urges*, that the special problems faced by older women, such as income security, education, employment, housing, health and community support services, should be given explicit and full attention by the Second World Assembly on Ageing to be held in Madrid in April 2002, and should be dealt with in the International Plan of Action on Ageing to be adopted by the Second World Assembly;

"4. *Invites* the Second World Assembly on Ageing to therefore include in its agenda an item entitled 'Discrimination on grounds of age and gender';

"5. *Recommends* that older women should be accorded a respected role in society, which would reduce their isolation and permit their full participation in society, including participation in the development of policies and programmes that affect their well-being;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that in all future reports on the question of ageing, data are presented and analysed by gender and age, and that information is included on the needs and risks of older and very much older persons, most of whom are disadvantaged older women;

"7. *Recommends* that, within existing budgetary resources or, where necessary, with the help of extrabudgetary or voluntary resources, the concerned specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system provide to the bodies responsible for the advancement of women, information that would enable them to undertake a precise and in-depth analysis of the situation of older women, including developing, if necessary, specific new methods for data collection;

"8. *Requests*, therefore, that appropriate resources be invested in research and data collection on the situation of older women, to provide the basis for development of policies and implementation of programmes that recognize and reflect the past, present and future contributions of older women and that address the needs of older women relating to economic and social security, education and appropriate health-care services;

"9. *Invites* relevant research and training institutions for the advancement of women of the United Nations, in cooperation with the regional commissions, to pay special attention to older women in their efforts to improve methodology for data-gathering on women;

"10. *Urges* Governments, in cooperation with the non-governmental organizations concerned, to strengthen activities for the benefit of older women, taking better account of their specific needs;

"11. *Requests* that the results of data collection and research on older women be widely disseminated in order to effect positive changes in policy development and programme implementation for all women of all ages."

14. At its 52nd meeting, on 29 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Situation of older women in society" (A/C.3/56/L.21/Rev.1), submitted by Suriname on behalf of Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Dominica, Ethiopia, Germany, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Spain, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Fiji, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Panama, the Philippines and Uganda joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

15. At the same meeting, the representative of Suriname orally revised the first preambular paragraph by replacing the words "the obligations contained in human rights instruments" by the words "their obligations under human rights instruments".

16. Also at its 52nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.21/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 36, draft resolution II).

## C. Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.22

17. At the 25th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Australia, on behalf of Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, the Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system" (A/C.3/56/L.22). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Somalia, the Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. At the 53rd meeting, on 30 November, the representative of Australia orally revised the draft resolution by deleting the sixth preambular paragraph, which read "*Noting* Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women, peace and security".

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.22, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 36, draft resolution III).

## D. Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.23

20. At the 25th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of the Netherlands, on behalf of Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, the

Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls" (A/C.3/56/L.23). Subsequently, Belarus, Bolivia, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Guinea, Kazakhstan, the Marshall Islands, Peru, Sri Lanka and the United Republic of Tanzania joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

21. At its 29th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.23 without a vote (see para. 36, draft resolution IV).

22. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see A/C.3/56/SR.29).

## E. Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.24/Rev.1

23. At the 32nd meeting, on 7 November, the representative of Mongolia, on behalf of Bangladesh, Benin, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Panama, the Philippines, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas" (A/C.3/56/L.24/Rev.1). Subsequently, Angola, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, the Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, the Niger, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Swaziland, Tunisia, Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

24. At the same meeting the representative of Mongolia corrected the draft resolution by rearranging the subparagraphs under operative paragraph 6 as follows: subparagraph "a" remained the same; "b" became "h"; "c" became "f"; "d" remained the same; "e" became "b"; "f" became "g"; "g" became "i"; "h" became "e"; and "i" became "c".

25. At its 47th meeting, on 21 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.24/Rev.1, as orally corrected, without a vote (see para. 36, draft resolution V).

26. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the Sudan (see A/C.3/56/SR.47).

## F. Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.25

27. At the 25th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Jamaica, on behalf of Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Development Fund for Women" (A/C.3/56/L.25). Subsequently, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Costa Rica, Cyprus, El Salvador, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Mauritius, Morocco, the Niger, Norway, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sweden and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

28. At its 29th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.25 without a vote (see para. 36, draft resolution VI).

## G. Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.26

29. At the 25th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Finland, on behalf of Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women" (A/C.3/56/L.26). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burkina Faso, the Congo, El Salvador, Cambodia, Colombia, the Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Indonesia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Panama, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Suriname, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

30. At the 29th meeting, on 1 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement in connection with the draft resolution (see A/C.3/56/SR.29).

31. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.26 without a vote (see para. 36, draft resolution VII).

32. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Singapore and Japan (see A/C.3/56/SR.29).

## H. Draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.27

33. At the 25th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of Bangladesh, Belgium, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Indonesia, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Violence against women migrant workers" (A/C.3/56/L.27). Subsequently, Argentina, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Croatia, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Haiti, Israel, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

34. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines corrected the text as follows:

(a) In the third preambular paragraph, the words "best practice" were replaced by the words "best practices";

(b) In the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "including the possible establishment of" were replaced by the words "possibly including".

35. At its 29th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/56/L.27, as orally corrected, without a vote (see para. 36, draft resolution VIII).

# III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

36. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

### Draft resolution I
### Critical situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 55/219 of 23 December 2000, in which it decided to provide the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women with financial assistance on a non-recurrent basis, enabling the Institute to continue its activities throughout 2001,

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/40 of 26 July 2001 and its recommendation that the General Assembly consider the transfer of any balance remaining from the $800,000 advance for 2001 to the Institute as a reserve for 2002,

*Recognizing* that, despite the persistent difficulties and uncertainties that the Institute has confronted during the past two years, it has managed to secure the minimal resources with which to respond to the mandates given by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the critical situation affecting the Institute;[3]

2. *Commends* the Institute for the successive implementation of phases I and II of the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System and the initiation of phase III;

3. *Expresses its concern* that, since the departure of the Director in July 2001, and notwithstanding the severe predicament of the Institute, a new Director has not yet been appointed;

4. *Decides*:

(a) To establish a working group composed of two governmental representatives from each of the five regional groups of the United Nations and one representative of the host country, the mandate of the working group being to make recommendations to the General Assembly before the end of the fifty-sixth session, for its consideration by the end of 2002, on the future operation of the Institute;

(b) To examine ways, within the framework of General Assembly resolution 55/219 of 23 December 2000 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/40 of 28 July 2001, in which the Institute could be provided with resources to enable it to continue its operation until the General Assembly has considered the recommendations of the working group;

5. *Urges* the Secretary-General:

(a) To appoint a Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women as soon as possible in order to provide the Institute with the required leadership;

(b) To continue to encourage Member States to support the Institute by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Institute;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002, on the implementation of the present resolution.

## Draft resolution II
## Situation of older women in society

*The General Assembly*,

*Reaffirming* the obligations of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and emphasizing also their obligations under the human rights instruments, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[5]

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 44/76 of 8 December 1989 on elderly women, Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/23 of 4 May 1982 on elderly

[3] A/56/279.
[4] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[5] Resolution 54/4, annex.

3. *Urges* Governments and regional and international organizations, including the United Nations system in cooperation with civil society, including the non-governmental organizations concerned, to promote programmes for healthy active ageing that stress the independence, equality, participation and security of older women and undertake gender-specific research and programmes to address their needs;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for Governments and regional and international organizations, including the United Nations system and the international financial institutions, to develop and improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of data disaggregated by age and sex;

5. *Urges* Governments to take measures to enable all older women to be actively engaged in all aspects of life, as well as to assume a variety of roles in communities, public life and decision-making, and to develop and implement policies and programmes in cooperation with civil society, including the non-governmental organizations concerned, to ensure their full enjoyment of human rights and quality of life, as well as to address their needs, with a view to contributing to the realization of a society for all ages;

6. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system and international organizations to consider, in their development planning, the increasing responsibilities of older women in providing care and assistance to victims of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS);

7. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations system to give attention to the situation of older women in the context of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, to be held at Madrid in April 2002, including the integration of a gender perspective into the outcome document.

## Draft resolution III
## Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

*Recalling also* the goal, contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[10] of achieving overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by 2000 and the further actions and initiatives set out in the outcome document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[11]

*Recalling further* its resolution 55/69 of 4 December 2000 on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system,

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[10] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[11] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

*Taking note* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/50 of 24 April 2001[12] on integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system, in particular paragraph 13, in which the Commission recognizes that gender mainstreaming will strongly benefit from the enhanced and full participation of women, including at the higher levels of decision-making in the United Nations system,

*Welcoming* the decision of the Secretary-General to include, in the performance appraisal of managers, information on the opportunities presented for the selection of women candidates and on progress made in improving women's representation, including efforts made to identify women candidates,

*Welcoming* the proposed system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 2002-2005, as recommended to the Economic and Social Council by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session,[13]

*Taking into account* the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, and from countries with economies in transition,

*Noting with appreciation* those departments and offices that have achieved the goal of gender balance, as well as those departments that have met or exceeded the goal of 50 per cent in the selection of women candidates for vacant posts in the past year,

*Welcoming* the progress made in maintaining and improving the representation of women at some levels of the Secretariat, particularly in regard to geographical appointments, and welcoming the fact that the percentage of women appointed and promoted in the Secretariat has been maintained or increased, but expressing concern that progress in improving the representation of women at the senior and policy-making levels has been negligible,[14]

*Expressing concern* that there are currently no women acting as special representatives or envoys,

*Noting* that the statistics on the representation of women in the organizations of the United Nations system are not fully up to date,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[15] and the actions described therein;

2. *Reaffirms* the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at senior and policy-making levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or under-representation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

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[12] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[13] Ibid., *Supplement No. 7* (E/2001/27), chap. I, sect. B, resolution 45/3.

[14] See A/56/472, para. 9.

[15] A/56/472.

3. *Welcomes*:

(a) The ongoing personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting the goal of gender equality and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization, including full implementation of the special measures for the achievement of gender equality;[16]

(b) The pledge of the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to meet the gender equality goals set out in the Beijing Declaration[17] and Platform for Action;[10]

(c) The inclusion of the objective of improving gender balance in action plans on human resources management for individual departments and offices, and encourages further cooperation, including the sharing of best-practice initiatives, between heads of departments and offices, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat in the implementation of those plans, which include specific targets and strategies for improving the representation of women in individual departments;

(d) The continuing designation of focal points for women in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the focal points are designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full access to senior management in the mission area and at Headquarters;

(e) The continued provision of specific training programmes on gender mainstreaming and gender issues in the workplace, tailored to meet the special needs of individual departments, commends those heads of departments and offices who have launched gender training for their managers and staff, and strongly encourages those who have not yet organized such training to do so by the end of the biennium;

4. *Regrets* that the goal of 50/50 gender distribution was not met by the end of 2000, and urges the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to realize significant progress towards this goal in the near future;

5. *Expresses concern* that, in five departments and offices of the Secretariat, women still account for less than 30 per cent of staff,[18] and encourages the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to meet the goal of gender balance within all departments and offices of the Secretariat;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to achieve and maintain the goal of 50/50 gender distribution with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter:

(a) To develop innovative recruitment strategies to identify and attract suitably qualified women candidates, particularly from and in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, other Member States that are unrepresented or under-represented in the Secretariat and in occupations in which women are under-represented;

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[16] ST/AI/1999/9.

[17] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[18] See A/56/472, para. 11.

(b) To encourage the United Nations system, its agencies and departments to make more effective use of existing information technology resources and systems and other established methods to disseminate information about employment opportunities for women and to better coordinate rosters of potential women candidates;

(c) To continue to monitor closely the progress made by departments and offices in meeting the goal of gender balance, to ensure that the appointment and promotion of suitably qualified women will be not less than 50 per cent of all appointments and promotions until the goal of 50/50 gender distribution is met, including through full implementation of the special measures for women, and to effectively encourage, monitor and assess the performance of managers in meeting targets for improving women's representation;

(d) To enable the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women to monitor effectively and facilitate progress in the implementation of the strategic action plans for the achievement of gender balance and the special measures for women, including by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

(e) To intensify his efforts to create, within existing resources, a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, including through the development of policies for flexible working time, flexible workplace arrangements and child-care and elder-care needs, as well as through the provision of more comprehensive information to prospective candidates and new recruits on employment opportunities for spouses, the provision of support for the activities of women's networks and organizations within the United Nations system and the expansion of gender-sensitivity training in all departments, offices and duty stations;

(f) To strengthen further the policy against harassment, including sexual harassment, by, inter alia, ensuring the full implementation of the guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field, including in peacekeeping operations;

7. *Strongly encourages* the Secretary-General to renew his efforts to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, especially in matters related to peacekeeping, peace-building, preventative diplomacy and economic and social development, as well as in operational activities, including appointment as resident coordinators, and to appoint more women to other high-level positions;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to develop common approaches for retaining women, promoting inter-agency mobility and improving career development opportunities;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations and Member States to continue to implement the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", pertaining to the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system;[11]

10. *Strongly encourages* Member States:

(a) To support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at senior and policy-making levels, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, by identifying and proposing national recruitment sources that will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and by encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, including in areas in which women are under-represented, such as peacekeeping, peace-building and other non-traditional areas;

(b) To identify women candidates for assignment to peacekeeping missions and to improve the representation of women in military and civilian police contingents;

(c) To identify and regularly submit more women candidates for appointment or election to intergovernmental, expert and treaty bodies;

(d) To identify and nominate more women candidates for appointment or election as judges or other senior officials in international courts and tribunals;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing up-to-date statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system, and on the implementation of departmental action plans for the achievement of gender balance, to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-sixth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

## Draft resolution IV
## Traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 54/133 of 17 December 1999 and its other relevant resolutions and decisions, and bearing in mind those of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

*Recalling* the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children[19] and of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[20]

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and emphasizing also the obligations contained in human rights instruments, in particular articles 5 and 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

[19] E/CN.5/Sub.2/2001/27.

[20] E/CN.4/2001/73 and Add.1 and 2.

Discrimination against Women,[21] article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[22] and article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[23]

*Bearing in mind* article 2, paragraph (a), of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[24] and article 5, paragraph 5, of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[25]

*Recalling* the provisions pertaining to traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls contained in the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights,[26] the International Conference on Population and Development,[27] the Fourth World Conference on Women,[28] and the twenty-first,[29] twenty-third[30] and twenty-sixth[31] special sessions of the General Assembly,

*Taking note* of general recommendation 14 concerning female circumcision, adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its ninth session;[32] paragraphs 11, 20 and 24 (l) of general recommendation 19 concerning violence against women, adopted by the Committee at its eleventh session;[33] paragraphs 15 (d) and 18 of general recommendation 24 concerning article 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on women and health, adopted by the Committee at its twentieth session;[34] and paragraphs 21, 35 and 51 of general comment No. 14 (2000) concerning article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, adopted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its twenty-second session,[35]

*Reaffirming* that harmful traditional or customary practices, including female genital mutilation, constitute a serious threat to the health of women and girls, and may have fatal consequences,

*Expressing concern* at the continuing large-scale existence of these practices,

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[21] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[22] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[23] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[24] Resolution 48/104.

[25] Resolution 36/55.

[26] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[27] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[28] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No.E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[29] Resolution S-21/2.

[30] Resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.

[31] Resolution S-26/2.

[32] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38* and corrigendum (A/45/38 and Corr.1), chap. IV, para. 438.

[33] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), chap. I.

[34] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/54/38/Rev.1), part one, chap. I, sect. A.

[35] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 22* (E/2001/22), annex IV.

*Reaffirming* that such harmful traditional or customary practices constitute a definite form of violence against women and girls and a serious violation of their human rights,

*Emphasizing* that the elimination of harmful traditional or customary practices will contribute to reducing the vulnerability of women and girls to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections,

*Stressing* that the elimination of such practices requires greater efforts and commitment from Governments, the international community and civil society, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, and that fundamental changes in societal attitudes are required,

*Noting with appreciation* the work done in the context of the Organization of African Unity to prepare a draft protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the rights of women in Africa,

*Welcoming* the call for the elimination of all harmful traditional practices which are detrimental to girls' and women's rights and health made by the Pan-African Forum on the Future of Children, which was held in Cairo from 28 to 31 May 2001,[36]

1. *Welcomes*:

(a) The report of the Secretary-General,[37] which provides encouraging examples of national and international developments;

(b) The efforts undertaken by United Nations bodies, programmes and organizations, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, to address the issue of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, and encourages them to continue to coordinate their efforts;

(c) The work carried out by the Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation of the United Nations Population Fund, and her continuing contribution to the campaign to eliminate female genital mutilation;

(d) The work carried out by the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children and other non-governmental and community organizations, including women's organizations, in raising awareness of the harmful effects of such practices, in particular of female genital mutilation;

(e) The fact that the elimination of harmful traditional or customary practices will be considered during the special session of the General Assembly on children;[38]

2. *Emphasizes* the need for technical and financial assistance to those developing countries working to achieve the elimination of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls from United Nations funds and programmes, international and regional financial institutions and bilateral and

[36] See A/S-27/4, annex, para. 32 (g).

[37] A/56/316.

[38] See A/AC.256/CRP.6/Rev.3, para. 41.

multilateral donors, as well as the need for assistance to non-governmental organizations and community-based groups active in this field from the international community;

3. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To ratify or accede to, if they have not yet done so, the relevant human rights treaties, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[21] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[22] to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[39] and to respect and implement fully their obligations under any such treaties to which they are parties;

(b) To implement the international commitments made at relevant major United Nations conferences and special sessions and summit meetings of the General Assembly held since 1990 and their follow-up processes;

(c) To collect and disseminate basic data about the occurrence of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation;

(d) To develop, adopt and implement national legislation, policies, plans and programmes that prohibit traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practices;

(e) To establish, if they have not done so, a concrete national mechanism for the implementation and monitoring of relevant legislation, law enforcement and national policies;

(f) To establish or strengthen support services to respond to the needs of victims by, inter alia, developing comprehensive and accessible sexual and reproductive health services and by providing training to health-care providers at all levels on the harmful health consequences of such practices;

(g) To address specifically in the training of health and other relevant personnel traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, also addressing the increased vulnerability of women and girls to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections due to such practices;

(h) To take all necessary measures to empower women and strengthen their economic independence and protect and promote the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to allow women and girls to better protect themselves from, inter alia, traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls;

(i) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of and to mobilize international and national public opinion concerning the harmful effects of traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, inter alia, by involving public opinion leaders, educators, religious leaders, chiefs, traditional leaders, medical practitioners, teachers, women's health and family planning organizations, social workers, child care

[39] Resolution 54/4, annex.

agencies, relevant non-governmental organizations, the arts and the media in awareness-raising campaigns, in order to achieve the total elimination of these practices;

(j) To address traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls in education curricula, as appropriate;

(k) To promote men's understanding of their roles and responsibilities with regard to promoting the elimination of harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation;

(l) To continue to take specific measures to increase the capacity of communities, including immigrant and refugee communities, in which female genital mutilation is practised, to engage in activities aimed at preventing and eliminating such practices;

(m) To explore, through consultations with communities and religious and cultural groups and their leaders, alternatives to harmful traditional or customary practices, in particular where those practices form part of a ritual ceremony or rite of passage, as well as through alternative training and education possibilities for traditional practitioners;

(n) To cooperate closely with the Special Rapporteur of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child, in particular by supplying all necessary information requested by her and by giving serious consideration to inviting her to visit their countries;

(o) To cooperate closely with relevant specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as with regional intergovernmental organizations, as appropriate, and relevant community and non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, in a joint effort to eradicate traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls;

(p) To include in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and other relevant treaty bodies specific information on measures taken to eliminate traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, including female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practices;

4. *Invites*:

(a) Relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to exchange information on the subject of the present resolution, and encourages the exchange of such information between non-governmental organizations active in this field and the bodies monitoring the implementation of relevant human rights treaties;

(b) The Commission on the Status of Women to address this subject at its forty-seventh session under the priority theme "Women's human rights, and elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly";

(c) Governments, organizations and individuals that are in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund that supports the work of the Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation of the United Nations Population Fund;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to make his report available to relevant meetings within the United Nations system;

(b) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, with a special focus on recent national and international developments, including examples of national best practices and international cooperation.

## Draft resolution V
## Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 54/135 of 17 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the importance attached to the problems of rural women by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[40] the Beijing Declaration[41] and Platform for Action[42] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[43]

*Welcoming* the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", namely, the political declaration[44] and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[45]

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration[46] of 8 September 2000, in which Member States resolved, inter alia, to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable,

*Recognizing* the critical role and contribution of rural women in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty,

*Noting* that some effects of globalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of rural women,

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[40] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[41] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[42] Ibid., annex II.

[43] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[44] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[45] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[46] See resolution 55/2.

*Noting also* that the globalization process has had some benefits by providing opportunities for wage employment for rural women in new sectors,

*Mindful* of the fact that the available data and existing tools of measurement and analysis are insufficient for a full understanding of the gender implications of the processes of globalization and rural change, and their impact on rural women,

*Recognizing* the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas;[47]

2. *Welcomes* the holding, from 4 to 8 June 2001 at Ulaanbaatar, of the expert group meeting on the situation of rural women within the context of globalization;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a user-friendly publication based, inter alia, on case studies presented at the expert group meeting referred to in paragraph 2 above in order to raise awareness of the situation of rural women in the context of globalization;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the desirability of convening a high-level policy consultation at the governmental level with a view to setting priorities and developing critical strategies that would meet the manifold challenges faced by rural women;

5. *Welcomes* the convening of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa in September 2002, including the review of chapter 24 of Agenda 21[48] entitled "Global action for women towards sustainable and equitable development", entailing, inter alia, measures to improve the situation of women in rural areas, and the World Food Summit: five years later, to be held in Italy, in June 2002, and urges Governments to integrate a gender perspective, with attention to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, in their respective processes and outcome documents;

6. *Invites* Member States, in collaboration with the United Nations organizations and civil society, as appropriate, to continue their efforts to implement the outcome of and to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits, including their five-year reviews, and to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women in their national, regional and global development strategies by, inter alia:

(a) Creating an enabling environment for improving the situation of rural women, including integrating a gender perspective in macroeconomic policies and developing appropriate social support systems;

(b) Designing and revising laws to ensure that, where private ownership of land and property exists, rural women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and undertaking administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right

[47] A/56/268.

[48] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

(c) Taking steps towards ensuring that women's unpaid work and contributions to on-farm and off-farm production, including income generated in the informal sector, are visible, and assessing the feasibility of developing and improving mechanisms, such as time-use studies, to measure in quantitative terms unpaid work, recognizing the potential for it to be reflected in policy and programme formulation and implementation at national and regional levels;

(d) Investing in and strengthening efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women through capacity-building and human resources development measures and the provision of a safe and reliable water supply, health services, including family planning services, and nutritional programmes as well as education and literacy programmes and social support measures;

(e) Pursuing the political and socio-economic empowerment of rural women by supporting their full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels, including in rural institutions through, inter alia, provision of training and capacity-building programmes, including legal literacy;

(f) Promoting programmes to enable rural women and men to reconcile their work and family responsibilities and to encourage men to share equally with women household and childcare responsibilities;

(g) Integrating a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development policies and programmes with an emphasis on reducing the disproportionate number of rural women living in poverty;

(h) Designing and implementing policies that promote and protect women's enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and creating an environment that does not tolerate violations of the rights of women and girls;

(i) Developing specific assistance programmes and advisory services to promote economic skills of rural women in banking, modern trading and financial procedures and providing microcredit and other financial and business services to a greater number of women in rural areas for their economic empowerment;

7. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to pay due attention to the situation of rural women in the consideration of the priority themes identified in its multi-year programme of work for the period 2002-2006;

8. *Invites* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system dealing with issues of development to address and support the empowerment of rural women and their specific needs in their programmes and strategies including in the context of globalization;

9. *Stresses* the need to identify the best practices for ensuring that rural women have access to and full participation in the area of information and communication technologies, inter alia, through specific studies, and invites the International Telecommunication Union to consider this matter in connection with the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## Draft resolution VI
## United Nations Development Fund for Women

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, which established the United Nations Development Fund for Women as a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme, as well as its resolutions 52/94 of 12 December 1997 and 54/136 of 17 December 1999,

*Recalling also* the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[49] which recognizes the special role of the Fund in the promotion of the empowerment of women and calls upon the Fund to review and strengthen its work programme in the light of the Platform for Action, focusing on the political and economic empowerment of women,

*Welcoming* the contributions that the Fund has made in supporting initiatives of Member States, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations to formulate and implement activities that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, concentrating on three thematic areas, namely, strengthening women's economic capacity, engendering governance and leadership and promoting women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

*Recalling and reaffirming* the commitments made at United Nations world conferences and summit meetings and special sessions of the General Assembly held since 1990 and their follow-up processes,

*Noting* the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions, as stipulated in the annex to resolution 39/125,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the note by the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[50]

2. *Encourages* the Fund to continue assisting in its areas of expertise in the implementation of commitments made at the Fourth World Conference on Women and at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

3. *Commends* the focus by the Fund on strategic programmes in its three thematic areas and on supporting innovative and experimental activities in implementing its strategy and business plan (2000-2003) within the context of the Beijing Platform for Action[49] and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly;[51]

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[49] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[50] A/56/174.

[51] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

4. *Notes with appreciation* the increased synergy between the United Nations Development Fund for Women and other funds, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women, and calls upon these entities to continue their collaborative efforts;

5. *Notes* the ability of the Fund to execute projects and programmes on behalf of the United Nations Development Programme in order to achieve their respective mandates as well as their individual and common purposes;

6. *Also notes* the activities undertaken by the Fund in follow-up to General Assembly resolution 54/136, including activities relating to the impact of armed conflict on women and the role of women in peace-building, and the support it provides for women's participation in peace processes and, in this regard, encourages the Fund to continue to consult with Member States on these activities;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women and its learning component in extracting and sharing good practice with respect to the elimination of violence against women, and reiterates the call to Governments, non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors to consider contributing or increasing contributions to the Trust Fund;

8. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to contribute to ensuring that a gender perspective is integrated into a comprehensive approach to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) at all levels of the three thematic areas of the Fund, in particular in the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, building on its partnerships within the United Nations system, in particular with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

9. *Also encourages* the Fund to support the development or strengthening of mechanisms to increase accountability for gender equality, at the request of countries, including by building the capacity of Governments to undertake gender-responsive budget analysis;

10. *Urges* the Fund to continue its efforts to mainstream a gender perspective in United Nations operational activities, including through the resident coordinator system and the common country assessment and United Nations Development Assistance Framework processes;

11. *Welcomes* the role of the Fund in promoting the strategic importance of the empowerment of women in all of the regions in which it operates, and notes with appreciation the enhanced programme activities of the Fund in the African region;

12. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to assist Governments in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[52] in order to advance gender equality at all levels, including by reinforcing the cooperation between Governments and civil society, especially women's organizations;

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[52] Resolution 34/180, annex.

13. *Recognizes* that the Fund has been able to secure increased contributions for its work, and expresses its appreciation to Member States and private organizations and foundations, whose increased contributions demonstrate their commitment to the issues on which the Fund is working;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the national committees for the United Nations Development Fund for Women and encourages them, with appropriate support from the Fund, to increase their capacity and intensify their outreach to civil society and the private sector in terms of building broad-based visibility and mobilizing resources for the work of the Fund;

15. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and members of the private sector that have contributed to the United Nations Development Fund for Women to continue to contribute and to consider increasing their financial contributions, and urges others to consider contributing to the Fund.

## Draft resolution VII
## Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 55/70 of 4 December 2000 and its previous resolutions on the elimination of discrimination against women,

*Bearing in mind* that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

*Affirming* that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[53] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

*Acknowledging* the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

*Reaffirming* the commitments made in the political declaration[54] and the outcome document[55] of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", in particular paragraph 68 (c) and (d) concerning the Convention on the

[53] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[54] Resolution S-23/2, annex.
[55] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[56] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[57]

*Recalling* that in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[58] heads of State and Government resolved to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

*Welcoming* the progress made in the implementation of the Convention, but expressing concern about the remaining challenges,

*Welcoming also* the growing number of States parties to the Convention, which now stands at one hundred and sixty-eight,

*Welcoming further* the entry into force on 22 December 2000 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

*Bearing in mind* the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports should contain information on the implementation of the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[59] in accordance with paragraph 323 of the Platform,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee on its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions,[60]

*Expressing concern* at the great number of reports that are overdue and that continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[61] on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

2. *Expresses disappointment* that universal ratification of the Convention was not achieved by 2000, and urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

4. *Welcomes* the rapidly growing number of State parties to the Optional Protocol, which now stands at twenty-eight, and urges other States parties to the Convention to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

5. *Welcomes also* the fact that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women has adopted the rules governing its work under the Optional Protocol as part of its revised rules of procedure;[62]

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[56] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[57] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[58] See resolution 55/2.

[59] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[60] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/56/38), parts one and two.

[61] A/56/328.

[62] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/56/38), annex I.

6. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States parties to limit the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

7. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 18 thereof and with the guidelines provided by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

8. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

9. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

10. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible, so that the amendment may enter into force;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the additional meeting time that allows the Committee to hold two sessions annually, each session of three weeks' duration and each preceded by a pre-sessional working group of the Committee;

12. *Expresses its appreciation also* for the efforts made by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

13. *Acknowledges* the number of reports awaiting consideration by the Committee and, in this regard, decides to authorize the Committee to hold, on an exceptional basis, an extraordinary session of three weeks' duration in 2002 to be used entirely for the consideration of the reports of the States parties in order to reduce the backlog of reports, and to enlarge the membership of the pre-sessional working group in 2002 to prepare for the exceptional session of the Committee, taking into account decision 25/I of the Committee;[63]

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999, to provide the resources, including staff and facilities, necessary for the effective functioning of the Committee within its full mandate, in particular taking into account the entry into force of the Optional Protocol;

15. *Urges* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

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[63] Ibid., part two, chap. I.

16. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as well as Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, as appropriate, to continue to assist States parties, upon their request, in implementing the Convention, and in this regard encourages States parties to pay attention to the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

17. *Encourages also* all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

18. *Welcomes* the submission by the specialized agencies at the invitation of the Committee of reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities and the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee, and encourages the specialized agencies to continue to submit reports;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

## Draft resolution VIII
## Violence against women migrant workers

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* all previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[64]

*Reaffirming* the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights,[65] the International Conference on Population and Development,[66] the Fourth World Conference on Women[67] and the World Summit for Social Development,[68] and their five-year reviews, specifically as the results pertain to women migrant workers,

*Noting* the various activities initiated by entities in the United Nations system such as the expert group meeting held by the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the International Organization for Migration at Geneva on 19 and 20 August 1999, the international workshop initiated by the International Organization for Migration on best practices concerning migrant workers and their families, held at Santiago on 19 and 20 June

[64] Resolution 48/104.

[65] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[66] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[67] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[68] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

2000, the seminar on women immigrants, organized by the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the Argentine National Institute against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism at Buenos Aires in July 2001, as well as other activities that continue to assess and alleviate the plight of women migrant workers,

*Emphasizing* the need for objective, comprehensive, broad-based information, possibly including a database for research and analysis, and a wide exchange of experience and lessons learned by individual Member States and civil society in the formulation of policies and concrete strategies to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers,

*Encouraging* the continuing participation of civil society in developing and implementing appropriate measures to support innovative partnerships among public agencies, non-governmental organizations and other members of civil society for combating violence against women migrant workers,

*Noting* the large numbers of women from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of the countries of origin to try to create conditions that provide employment and economic security for their citizens,

*Expressing deep concern* at the continuing reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against women migrant workers,

*Realizing* that the movement of a significant number of women migrant workers may be facilitated and made possible by means of fraudulent or irregular documentation and sham marriages with the object of migration, that this may be facilitated through, among others, the Internet, and that these women migrant workers are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation,

*Acknowledging* the economic benefits that accrue to both the country of origin and the country of destination from the employment of women migrant workers,

*Recognizing* the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

*Also recognizing* the importance of exploring the link between migration and trafficking,

*Encouraged* by some measures adopted by some countries of destination to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing in their areas of jurisdiction,

*Underlining* the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their rights and welfare,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[69]

[69] A/56/329.

2. *Also takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants[70] and of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[71] with regard to violence against women migrant workers, and encourages them to continue to address the issue of violence against women migrant workers and their human rights, in particular the problem of gender-based violence and of discrimination, and trafficking in women;

3. *Requests* all Governments to continue to cooperate fully with both Special Rapporteurs in the performance of their tasks and mandated duties and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to the urgent appeals of the Rapporteurs;

4. *Encourages* Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to make available to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants information on violence against women migrant workers, with a view to requesting the Special Rapporteur to recommend concrete measures and actions to address the problem;

5. *Encourages also* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable him or her to fulfil the mandate effectively;

6. *Urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to strengthen further their national efforts to protect and promote the rights and welfare of women migrant workers, including through sustained bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation, by developing strategies and joint action and taking into account the innovative approaches and experiences of individual Member States, and to establish and maintain continuing dialogues to facilitate the exchange of information;

7. *Also urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and allocate appropriate resources for programmes aimed at strengthening preventive action, in particular information for target groups, education and campaigns to increase public awareness of this issue at the national and grass-roots levels, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by Member States, including countries of origin, transit and destination, of measures to inform women migrant workers of their rights and the benefits to which they are entitled, and encourages other Member States to adopt appropriate measures in this regard;

9. *Calls upon* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, if they have not done so, to put in place penal and criminal sanctions to punish perpetrators of violence against women migrant workers and, to the extent possible, to provide, and to encourage non-governmental organizations to provide, victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance and protection, such as counselling, legal and consular assistance, temporary shelter and other measures that will allow them to be present during the judicial process, as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers to their countries of origin;

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[70] E/CN.4/2001/83 and Add.1.

[71] E/CN.4/2001/73 and Add.1-2.

10. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and, if they have not done so, to formulate and implement training programmes for their law enforcers, prosecutors and service providers with a view to instilling among those public sector workers the necessary skills and attitude to ensure the delivery of proper and professional interventions for women migrant workers who are subjected to abuse and violence;

11. *Also encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to adopt measures or strengthen existing ones to regulate the recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers, and to consider the adoption of appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

12. *Invites* Governments to identify the causes of undocumented migration and its economic, social and demographic impact, as well as its implications for the formulation and application of social, economic and migration policies, including those relating to women migrant workers;

13. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin, transit and destination, to avail themselves of the expertise of the United Nations, including the Statistics Division of the Secretariat and other relevant bodies, such as the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to develop appropriate national data-collection methodologies that will generate comparable data on violence against women migrant workers as bases for research and analyses of the subject;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to relevant International Labour Organization conventions and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[72] as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;[73]

15. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Assembly of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children[74] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,[75] supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[76] and encourages Governments to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Protocols;

16. *Encourages* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to consider developing a general recommendation on the situation of women migrant workers;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers and on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account updated information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in

[72] Resolution 45/158, annex.
[73] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 212, No. 2861.
[74] Resolution 55/25, annex II.
[75] Ibid., annex III.
[76] Ibid., annex I.

particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, as well as the International Organization for Migration and other relevant sources, including non-governmental organizations.